



PROFESSOR PETER VETH

Why the Settlement of Australia's Deserts was Early in the Continental Narrative

Peter Veth is Chair and Discipline Lead of Archaeology at the University of Western Australia. He has a long-term research interest in the dynamics of Aboriginal peoples' settlement of the deserts of Australia.

Many sites in the Australian arid zone now have earliest dates of occupation in the 50 – 45 ka range. The early and successful settlement of the Australian deserts represents one of the great narratives in global history. These sites are located from the coast, in interior ranges and on lowland deserts. Their discovery requires a rethinking of previous models for settlement of the Australian deserts. Peter will discuss the concept of desert refugia, the desert transformation model and more recent ones focusing on the role of cryptic refugia and water points.

5 pm , 21 April 2022

Hetzel Theatre, Institute Building

Cnr North Tce & Kintore Ave

Enter off Kintore Ave.

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